

## **NEWS** Release

## US Forest Service Tahoe National Forest

Contact: Ann Westling (530) 478-6205 August 11, 2011

## Nevada/Placer County Resource Advisory Committee Meets on September 14, 16, and 20

**Nevada City .....** The Nevada/Placer County RAC will be meeting on September 14, at the Tahoe National Forest Headquarters, (631 Coyote St, Nevada City, 95959); on September 16 at Truckee Ranger Station (10811 Stockrest Springs Road, Truckee, 96161); and on September 20 at the Placer County Water Agency, (144 Ferguson Rd, Auburn, 95604). The purpose of these meetings is to review and vote on which projects the RAC will recommend for funding. The public is invited to attend. All meetings will begin at 10:00 am.

The RAC will be voting on projects that have been submitted and meet the legislative requirements for Title II funding under Public Law 110-343. These projects must benefit National Forest System land in either Placer or Nevada County and can include: improving the maintenance of existing infrastructure; enhance forest ecosystems; restore and improve land health and water quality; road, trail and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration; soil productivity improvement; improvements in forest ecosystem health; watershed restoration and maintenance; control of noxious or exotic weeds; restoration, maintenance, and improvement of fish and wildlife habitat and the re-establishment of native species.

The RAC has approximately \$300,000 to allocate.

**Background:** Since 1908, the Forest Service has returned funding to the counties that are located within the National Forest. Originally 25% of the receipts to the National Forest in California were paid to the counties to support roads and schools. As the receipts to the National Forests declined in the early 1990's, the counties received less funding. In 2000, legislation modified the process and provided for stabilized and increased funding to the counties. In 2008, P.L.110-343 reauthorized the increased payments to counties. It also required the establishment of a Resource Advisory Committee to recommend funding allocations for projects that benefit the National Forest.

For additional information on this meeting, future meetings or the Nevada/Placer County Resource Advisory Committee contact Joanne Roubique, Truckee District Ranger (530)587-3558, Jennifer Montgomery, RAC Chair (530) 889-4010 or Ann Westling, Public Affairs Officer (530) 478-6205.